

## POLICE STUDY FILM DIRECTOR'S PAST TO DISCOVER MOTIVE FOR STRANGE MURDER IN L. A. HOME

(Continued from Page One.)

to her call at the Taylor apartment the night before he was killed, Miss Normand said in answer to a telephone call from him regarding a book. She told how she had purchased some light magazines and five cents worth of peanuts, which she ate on the way. She said she commented on the magazines when she started home "with Nietzsche under one arm and Freud under the other."

Leading directors and others in the industry are said to be planning to offer a reward for the arrest and conviction of the slayer of Taylor. It was thought possible the slayer obtained entrance to the Taylor apartment while the director was accompanying Miss Normand to her automobile.

**NOT LIKE SERVANT.**  
The description of the stranger—a man large of stature, wearing rough dark clothes, a cap and a muffer, is entirely different from that of a former servant of Taylor who was said to have been suspected by the director of having committed recent robberies at his apartments.

The police further advanced the theory that Taylor had been killed by a man who was jealous of him, and elaborated this to include several possibilities.

The police were said to be considering the possibility that Taylor was shot by the discarded suitor of some woman with whom he had been friendly; by a former servant he had caused to be arrested for an alleged crime and who was said to have threatened his life; by a burglar who was surprised when Taylor returned from escorting Miss Normand to her car or possibly by a woman who for some unknown reason had become enraged at him.

**MABEL EXPLAINS.**  
Miss Normand stated there "had been no affair of the heart whatever" between her and Taylor.  
"His friendship for me was that of an older man for a girl who liked the outdoor sports he liked, and who was eager to glean a little knowledge from the vast storehouse of knowledge he possessed."

"When I went to Mr. Taylor's home Wednesday evening, I was in response to a telephone call he had made to mine."  
"I had my chauffeur drive me to Mr. Taylor's home. I bought peanuts and some magazines and newspapers and ate the peanuts on the way. When I got out of my automobile I told my chauffeur to open the car."  
"Then I went up the stairs. I heard Mr. Taylor talking to somebody over the phone underneath the stairs and I hesitated about going in until he had finished. Then I went in. He had been talking to a woman who had charge of the income tax business for many of the picture folk, including myself."

He came in and said, "Gee, I am glad to see you."

**SHE STUDIES FRENCH.**  
"It was about five minutes after seven when I arrived at his house. We talked about books. I am studying French and as he spoke French fluently he was of great assistance to me."

He looked around the drawing room and told him I thought he had changed his house furnishings. He said: "You haven't been here for so long you forgot I hadn't been to his house before for two months. He said: 'The photograph is the only thing new.'"

"His servant, Henry, came in and said to Mr. Taylor, 'Have you had your dinner?' He said, 'Yes, have you had yours?' I said, 'No, but I'm tired, and I'm going home now. I have a studio call for seven o'clock tomorrow morning.'"

**HEARS OF HIS DEATH.**  
"He went with me to my car. He expressed surprise at some of the magazines in my car and I told him I had supposed, and he gave me one of his books to read."

"He said he would phone me later in the evening to see how I liked it, but he did not. That was the last I ever heard his voice. When Edna Purviance told me this morning he was dead, I felt sure it was all some horrible mistake."

"I had known him for six or seven years. He was uniformly kind to everyone."

News of the death of Taylor stirred the motion picture colony here and a group of directors and others prominent in the industry met to consider offering a reward for the arrest and conviction of his slayer.

Some of the efforts of the police were directed to a search for the person who some time before Taylor's death wrote him a note enclosing pawn tickets for jewelry stolen from his home.

The note was apparently written in Sacramento, Cal., December 27, 1921. It read:

"So sorry to inconvenience you, even temporarily. Also observe the lesson of the forced sale of assets."  
"A Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year."  
(Signed) "ALIAS JIMMY V."

**MYSTERIOUS CALLS.**  
Mrs. Marjorie Berger, said to be an income tax expert, said she had been receiving "mysterious" telephone calls.

"Why don't you get somebody to watch?" Mrs. Berger said she asked him.

"Oh, no," she said Taylor replied.

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## POLICE AIRING SIDELIGHTS By "Tim"

Sam Powell, assistant city attorney, pored over for all that he is innocent of all knowledge of the complicated and effervescent manufacture of "bee" wine, the latest craze.

When Attorney Woolley asked Sergeant Stephens on the witness stand if he hadn't had "bees" working at home, Sam shouted excitedly, "Bees? What do you mean, bees?"

Sam's total surprise and tone of voice gave ample proof that he has never yet been introduced to the latest method of having "bees" working in the kitchen.

It might be said that he is missing one of the most popular indoor sports.

But there were apparently giddy ones among the spectators. Many nodded knowingly and nodded or snickered unconsciously licked their lips.

For the information of assistant city attorneys and other innocent bystanders, it might be said that "bees" are a spongy growth, used as a sort of "mother" to make wine. Water is poured over them, molasses is added, and the wine-maker then just sits and waits. If the "bees" are all over the floor the next morning, they are healthy and growing.

A batch of "bees" may be procured free from any amateur who is in the hospital undergoing an operation after drinking the wine before the "bees" have attained their full growth.

After 14 days you pour a little of the wine in the kitchen sink. If the main drain cracks and curdles up, the liquid is ready to drink.

"What's all this going on?" asked a man who came into the city hall and got mixed up in the crowd that filled the hallways from the overflowing courtroom. "They're trying to prove that Policeman Elam took a drink," volunteered a man. "No they ain't," answered another. "They're trying to prove that Detective Jones couldn't smell it."

If anyone came to the hearing with the idea of getting an earful of a awful police scandal, they were disappointed. A few had long faces after listening to the testimony for an hour or so. If Promoter Jim Downing had seen the expression he would have probably shouted, out of habit, "If you are not satisfied, you can get your money back at the box office," or "come next week, sure, and we'll make up by giving you an extra thrill."

A few girls occupied seats near the front of the room until Elam testified that Sergeant Stephens called him when he accused the sergeant of "taking his toddlers at home, too."

Five men, who had been standing an hour, slipped into the vacant seats, with sighs of relief.

None of the other attorneys had to be told what "hard" work the "bees" were doing.

The afternoon when he got off shift in the early morning.

Mr. Woolley announced that he would present arguments and Mr. Powell declared he was willing to submit the case to the commission on its merits, but if Mr. Woolley argued, he would also.

Mr. Woolley declared the charges were apparently without foundation. He said every individual complaint had been countered with witnesses for the defense and called attention that eight witnesses had testified that Elam did not smell of liquor shortly before Stephens accused him in the police station.

Mr. Woolley also declared that Detective Jones, who was asked by Stephens to smell Elam's breath, reported he could smell nothing. He said the two raids on the gambling houses on the morning of January 26 had shown that the men were qualified to do their duty and that they were very much on the job. He closed by asking the commission to restate them.

**COLD HOLD BREATH.**  
Mr. Powell declared that eight witnesses might have smelled the breath of Elam before the trouble occurred at the police station, but explained that Elam had ample time to take drinks before he was accused by Sergeant Stephens. He said that it was possible that Elam held his breath when he was ordered to smell for liquor at the police station.

Attention was called by Mr. Powell to testimony that Officer Butler had brought a two-ounce bottle of liquor with him on duty one night. He said, he said, was sufficient grounds for discharge. He held that when Butler entered the argument between Elam and Stephens, the police station he committed an act of insubordination and held that discipline had to be maintained in order that the department might be conducted efficiently.

At the conclusion of the arguments, J. U. Eldredge, Jr., chairman of the civil service commission, announced that the case would be taken under advisement and a recommendation made as soon as was possible after the evidence had been thoroughly gone over.

**MORPHIA HABIT GRIPS CHINESE**

PEKING, Jan. 12.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press).—China barred under the law from smoking opium, is fast becoming a nation of morphia users, with results more menacing to its people than the opium evil of other days, according to a statement from the Anti-Opium association.

ON TREMENDOUS SCALE.  
This is declared to be particularly true of Manchuria, where the drug sale is said to be in the hands of Japanese drugists and peddlers. Keen competition between Japanese retailers and a mixed gang of many nationalities which smuggles drugs from Siberia and North Manchuria is reported to have cut prices to a very low figure.

Russians, Japanese, Chinese, Greeks, Turks and nondescripts of many nationalities numbering about 1,000 are reported to be operating on a tremendous scale with many minor officials of the railway in their pay. Foreign women, associated with the band of smugglers, are said to be carrying the drug from Manchuria to Peking, where it is retailed in tea houses and other resorts.

**OFFICIALS IN GRAP.**  
Officers of the Anti-Opium association assert that it is virtually impossible to check the trade on account of the attitude of the Chinese government, which has refused to move in the matter. The association points to the fact that in 1920 a list of Japanese shops alleged to be selling addic-

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## SURPLUS OF U. S. GOVERNMENT RECEIPTS OVER EXPENDITURES ANNOUNCED BY PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—Announcement of a surplus of government receipts over expenditures for the fiscal year as a result of economies in administration, President Harding, speaking today at the second business meeting of the government, declared he doubted "if any government in the world has made a more persistent and conscientious endeavor to cut down its expenditures and institute economies and restore sane and normal ways again," than has the American government.

The president and Director Dawes, of the budget, who followed him, announced to the meeting, composed of more than a thousand government officials of high and low degrees, that direct savings of \$22,000,000 and indirect savings of more than \$104,000,000 had been accomplished in less than six months through the operation of the budget bureau and coordinating agencies.

Mr. Harding expressed the future opinion that the efforts on the part of the government to bring economy had been reflected among the people at large.

"I cannot but feel that the government has in the budget ordinance set an example of care and thrift that has helped greatly to make saving fashionable. If to some extent the government has been a leader in so praiseworthy a cause, we all ought to be gratified to have had a part in the affair. Much of the extravagance of the government has been due to a lack of sense of individual responsibility, and the same is true in the corporate business and the private affairs of the people. If our efforts here shall do a standard and inspire an ambition for greater economies and higher efficiency, we shall have served not only the government, but the whole world. Particularly well, perhaps, the example will be of service to the world."

The president reiterated his opposition to deficiency appropriations and made a plea for an understanding among officials of the government "that the common good, not departmental advantage, is what all of us must aim."

Discussing the prospects of a surplus instead of a deficit, as was generally expected, Mr. Harding appeared for a continuation of the careful and painstaking effort which has been made continuously during the first half of the year, and added:

"In business so great as the national government, expected receipts will not frequently swell the total of calculated revenues. It seems likely that this will be true during the current year. But despite this possibility, it now seems probable that the restrictions upon expenditure which have been made will result in a surplus. The administration's general policy and the business of the country are such that this will be true."

Officers of the association declared that they are eagerly awaiting the visit to China of the opium commission of the league of nations whose investigations are expected to result in curtailment of the drug business.

## Aged Millionaire Says Wife Chased Him With a Knife

NEW YORK, Feb. 2.—Refusal to give \$25,000 a year to his wife, Helen Elwood Stokes, who is suing for restoration of her dower rights, was declared by W. E. D. Stokes, elderly millionaire, on the witness stand Thursday to have provoked an assault by her which caused him to be under a doctor's care for a long period.

"She flew at me and tore my face to shreds," he testified. "One of the marks I carry now on my head. She spat in my face and kicked my legs. Then she seized a knife and as I fled to the kitchen, the cook came out and saved me. I was in bed two weeks after that."

Mr. Stokes said his wife had a temper of her own and denied allegations of cruelty to her. He pictured himself as an ideal husband.

is expected to carry the cattle through until April.

Scientific study of electricity began in the sixteenth century.

## INDIAN CATTLE HUNGRY.

BROADUS, Mont., Feb. 1.—Eleven hundred head of cattle, owned by the Indians of the Cheyenne reservation, are being fed and cared for on Otter creek in the western portion of Powder River country. They were removed from the reservation because of the shortage of hay and pasture. The Indian agents purchased one thousand tons of hay from the ranchers, which

understand, according to some opponents of the measure, is that the military appropriations in the 1922 budget are based on the upkeep of an army of 630,000 men, while until the two years' service is reduced the number of men under the colors will be 740,000 men.

Louis Barthou, vice premier and minister of justice, before the finance commission today admitted that the putting into force of the new bill would increase military expenses as compared with the 1922 budget, which established a situation of military expenditures inferior to the normal number under the two years' service act. The increase being 230,000,000 francs under certain heads, without counting allowances proposed for numerous families. The finance commission suggested that the members of these numerous families might be excluded from the military service, thus saving 215,000,000 francs.

Neither the administration nor Republican leaders of the house favored the senate changes, but it was explained that they had decided to accept them because there would be further delay in final enactment of the legislation if the bill were sent to conference.

On a separate record vote, the amendment as to the date of maturity and the minimum interest rate was accepted 239 to 26 with both Republican and Democrats supporting it and opposing it. The other amendments were agreed to on bloc without a roll call.

## NEW ARMY BILL EXCITES FRANCE

PARIS, Feb. 2.—(By The Associated Press).—France's new army bill, which was drawn up last year and discussion of which is due to commence in the chamber of deputies soon, has been arousing considerable debate, since the finance commission's report on the measure became known. This report seemed to show that the military expenses of 1922 would exceed the appropriations voted in the 1922 budget by a half million francs. The chamber lobbies grew excited over the report and the Socialist radicals and the Socialists declared that the bill would have to be withdrawn and revised. Premier Poincare, however, has given assurance that the government will introduce the bill as soon as the expense budget has been voted.

One of the most difficult points to

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